

ABOUT THE HOUSE: Keeping clean

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CYLINDER vacuum cleaners may have handles but they are usually carried by the nozzle section, which is tough on the place where the hose meets the cylinder. Philips considered this when designing the Swivel-Top Super (model HR 6223) with its special joint capable of 360 degree turns. The 700 watt motor is surprisingly quiet, dust bag capacity large, wheels and castor under the belly make it mobile. The usual safety gadgets include a dust bag full warning light, automatic thermal cut-out and foot on/off switch. The plastic hose has four heads and is reinforced with spring steel wire. In ivory and brown plastic it has both top and end-on handles and is selling at about £35.80 from electrical dealers and through Electricity Board showrooms.

AT £13.25 Sunbeam Electric's Super Shot of Steam iron could not pretend to be cheap, but then it does include sophisticated extras, like a press button which pushes jets of steam through three dozen holes in the sole plate, turning the same button through 180 degrees to make a fine spray for the dampening of bad creases, a heat control, fabric guide, stainless steel water tank which won't rust, button hooks, a safety heel rest and even a water level gauge making the whole thing a bit like the dashboard of a sports car. From electricity departments of larger stores, electrical shops or to order if they haven't got it in stock yet.

AS WELL AS all manner of fillers for the home handyman Warrior Products sell a chrome cleaner in a tube (60p) and Stainex Carpet Cleaner for pet, egg, and other usual stains (70p) also in a tube under their Duro brand name. From DIY and hardware shops, department stores and the carpet cleaner from carpet departments in some shops. If hard to find write to John Skudder, Warrior Products Ltd, Davis House, 8 Scrubs Lane, London NW10 for the name of a nearby stockist.

IT'S BEEN worth waiting the couple of years it has taken the French firm of La Sioe to import their excellent range of ironing boards, all made of chrome-plated, tubular steel with pull-out iron trays set in the blunt end. There are three models—SCJT (54 x 15 inches) at £16.46, Sandra (47 x 13½ inches) with a broad wire tray under the board's nose to take ironed linen, £11.88, and Deauville (54 x 15 inches) which has two trays, one fore, one aft of the crossed legs, plus a cable guide standing up like a car's radiator mast when fixed to the board, at £16.90. Sleeve

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boards are £2.30 and £3.19, and a selection of covers, under covers, pads as well as ironing stool at £9.13. Now going in to major department stores like those in the Lewis group. Write to Mr Thomas, La Soie Ltd, 13 Charlotte Street, London W1 for brochures and stockists' names.

PEOPLE with delicate skin who have to spend time washing up may find F. W. Lee's Sensitive Vinyl Gloves exactly what they need. They are moulded, seamless, very thin, extremely pliable and look like the gloves used in hospitals. Unaffected by grease, oil or other dirt, easy to wash clean but not really tough enough for gardening, they are sold in 50 glove packs for £2.30 postage inclusive in three sizes, each pack containing one size only and all gloves fitting either hand, small (sizes 6 to 7), medium (sizes 7 to 8) and large (sizes 8 to 9) from F. W. Lee (Industrial Equipment Ltd) 156 South Ealing Road, London W5.

JUST HOW much washing powder anyone uses in top loaded or automatic washing machines depends as much on hardness of water as personal preference but Kleeneze estimate that their 5lb tubs of KP4 washing

powder should do 80 washes. At £3.07 this doesn't work out badly and their new germicidal additive (400 grams for 78p) should last for as many washes. Kleeneze operate a door-to-door service through some 8,000 agents around the country. Write to Desmond Appleby, Kleeneze Holdings Ltd, Hanham, Bristol BS 15 3 DT (0272 670 861) for the name of a nearby representative who will call by appointment.

THAT DEAR old standby the yellow cotton duster now costs 19p a time, is no longer either colour fast or as fluffy as it was so Frestex Dusting Cloths (25p a pack of three) becomes a good buy. Specially developed from a new process of polyester and viscose rayon bonded fibres by the Frestex Division of Courtaulds they are soft, wash in lukewarm water and last well. From branches of Fine Fare, Waitrose, Co-op, Asdax, Macfisheries and in major department stores.

THREE SMALL feet under Plysu's rigid, round washing up bowl mean slopped over water will run away easily. The bowl is slightly barrel-shaped, 14½ inches in diameter, 5½ inches high and is made in avocado, gold, blue, orange to match their other house-

hold accessories. Price about 73p from department stores like the John Lewis Partnership and the Lewis Group.

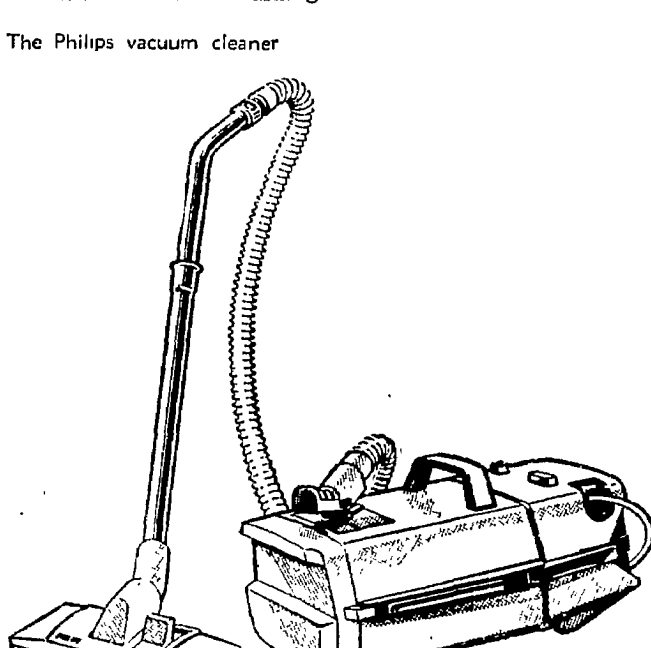
LATEST in the fabric conditioner field Proctor and Gamble's "Lenor" really does just what it says, taking the harshness out of washed towels and clothes, reducing what is called "static cling factor" where skirt and slip stick together and crackle when taken off. Coming in to shops, supermarkets and ironmongers now in three sizes, 35 fluid oz. (43½p), 17 fluid oz. (25½p) and 11 fluid oz. (17p).

SCOURING with wire wool, pumice stone or any of the proprietary cleaners containing gritty crystals does make scratches even if it gets the dirt out, so Lever Brothers' JIF, more of a liquid cream made with ammonia, is a great advance especially for stainless steel sink or hob units. Now coming into shops and supermarkets at 24½p for 9½ fluid oz. Instructions and warnings embossed on the bottle should be taken seriously.

ALTHOUGH they specialise in plasticised metal storage extras like stacking and free standing shelves, hangers, coat and clothes racks, Storemore's catalogue has a number of handy laundry and cleaning aids. A three-tier clothes airer that folds flat (£4.35), pull-out clothes airers (£2.50) to fix to garden or indoor walls, Milum ironing board covers (95p or £1.15), an Oz-Cloth for wiping down wallpaper (75p), soft nylon dri-wash tissues impregnated with a cologne (six sachets for 15p) and a rust stain and scale remover (half litre £1.50, one litre £2.75) for metal surfaces like gates, drainpipes, motor cars. The 1973 winter catalogue is still current but is wrapped round in a newprice list. Everything is mail order. Write to J. M. Wilkinson, Storemore Products Ltd, 153 High Town Road, Luton, Bedfordshire, but please print addresses clearly.

BOOTS, the Chemists, are properly proud of their values for money especially on the laundry side and are offering their own brands of Spray Starch (17½p), 40½ ozs. of Soft Wash (42p); Kudos Soap Flakes (1lb, 11ozs. for 38p), Soft Rinse (half gallon for 61p) and a bottle of Dry Cleaner (100ml. for 10p). From all their major branches.

WITH over 400 high street shops Curry's can happily commission special machinery to be made for them exclusively like their upright vacuum cleaner. At £25.48 it's certainly value for money, with a 300 watt motor and wide angle searchlight in front.



The Philips vacuum cleaner